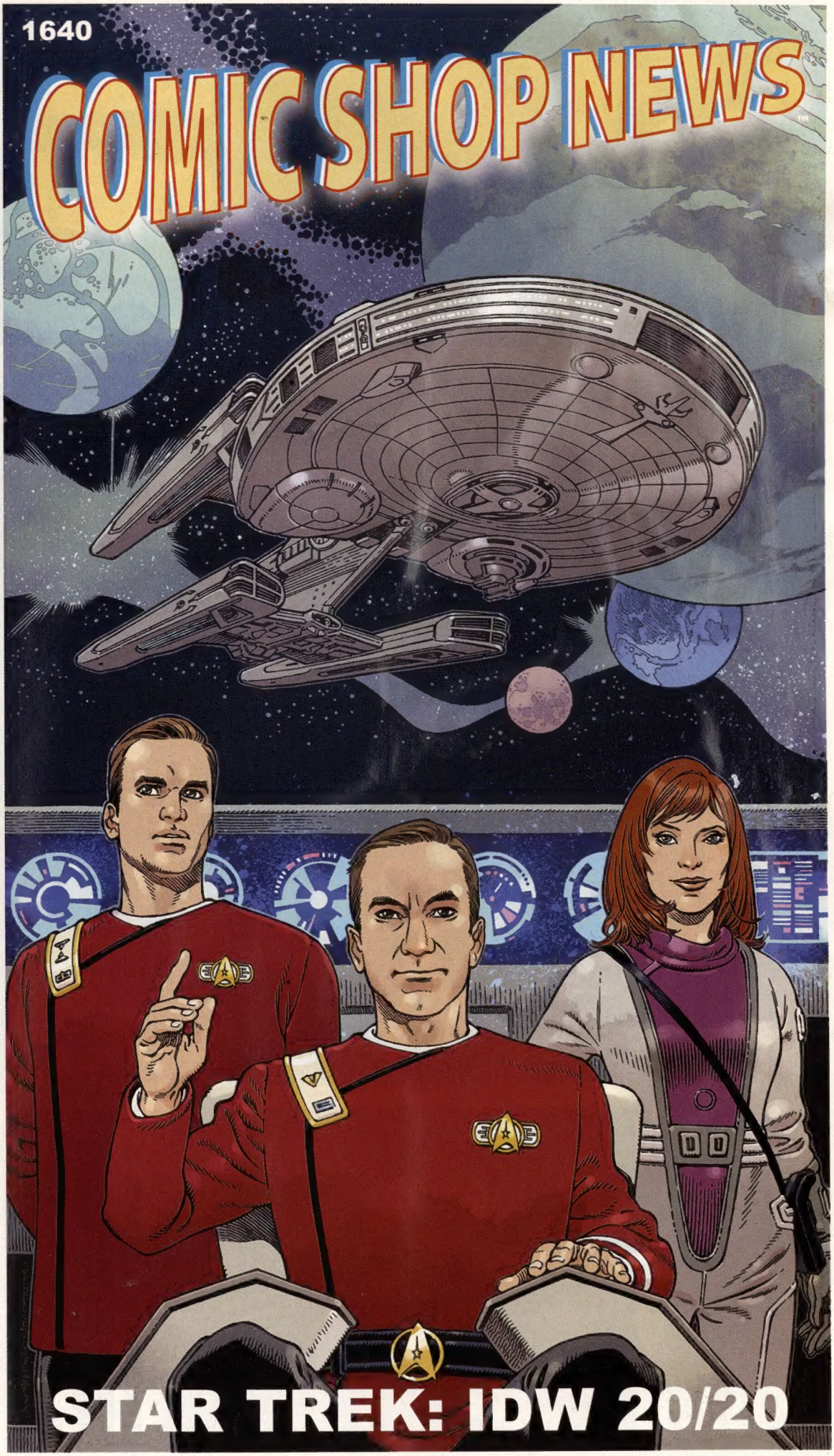

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The Once and Future IDW

IDW is about to turn 20—and it's celebrating its anniversary with an all-new weekly event entitled (appropriately enough) IDW 20/20!

The event will feature five oneshots exploring secrets and offering startling revelations about ***Ghostbusters, Jem and the Holograms, My Little Pony, Star Trek,*** and ***Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles.*** Some of the tales look back 20 years into the past... others glimpse 20 years into the future. What made these characters into icons, and what twists does the future hold?

The five oneshots include:

• ***Ghostbusters: IDW 20/20*** (by *Erik Burnham & Dan Schoening)* – Twenty years in the future, a new generation of Ghostbusters is sent on all the jobs Ray, Winston, Peter, and Egon just don't feel like taking on themselves. The Sanctum of Slime Ghostbusters—Bridget, Samuel, Gabriel, and Alan—have proven themselves many times over... first against the demon Dumazu, and later with the Ghostbusters of many other dimensions in the recent ***Crossing Over*** event. Now they're ready for an easy gig, something like a simple haunted house. But they better be careful... you never know *Wat* could happen.

• ***Jem and the Holograms: IDW 20/20*** (by *Sina Grace & Siobhan Keenan)* – Jem and the Holograms are back with new music, old flames, and good friends in this adventure set 20 years in the future! Join Jerrica, Synergy, and the rest of your favorite holographic gals for a rockin' reunion that's sure to please old and new fans alike!

• ***My Little Pony: IDW 20/20*** (by *Ted Anderson & Toni Kuusisto)* – Ponyville's most courageous and magical ponies celebrate friendship and fun in this adventure set 20 years in the past! Twilight Sparkle, Rainbow Dash, and the rest of your favorite fillies are young foals—surely things can't get too crazy, right?! One thing's for sure: No matter what escapades they face, the magic of friendship will see them through!

• ***Star Trek: IDW 20/20*** (by *Peter David & JK Woodward)* – Twenty years before he took command of the ***USS Enterprise-D***, Jean-Luc Picard sat in the captain's chair of the ***USS Stargazer***. Picard served with distinction aboard the ***Stargazer*** for many years on his way to becoming the most respected captain in Starfleet. But in this early mission, Picard shows us a vulnerable side as well as glimpses of the brilliant tactician he would become.

• ***Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: IDW 20/20*** (by *Paul Allor & Nelson Daniel)* – Meet the Turtles of tomorrow in this adventure set 20 years in the future! The Utrom Civil War rages across Earth. When news of a backup Technodrome threatens hundreds of millions of innocent lives, it's up to the Turtles to do what they do best—save the world.

"An anniversary like the one IDW is celebrating is a cause to look to the future and the past," IDW Editor-in-chief *John Barber* said. "It gives us a moment to reflect on where we came from and where we're going, because both directions are pretty exciting. We're lucky to have partners like Hasbro, Nickelodeon, CBS Consumer Products, and Sony to share in the celebration—and to have these five sets of characters that have helped place IDW at the center of the pop culture universe!"

The fun begins on January 2nd with ***Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: IDW 20/20,*** then continues in ***My Little Pony: IDW 20/20*** on January 9th, ***Ghostbusters: IDW 20/20*** on January 16th, ***Jem and the Holograms: IDW 20/20*** on January 23rd, and ***Star Trek: IDW 20/20*** on January 30th.

Powell Goes Goony Again

Eric Powell is working on a new ***Goon*** series to be published in the spring of 2019 from Powell's Albatross Funnybooks imprint. The book is slated to commemorate the character's 20th anniversary—and it'll be Powell's first original ***Goon*** series in four years.

"The fact that we feel confident bringing the full library of my flagship title over to Albatross going into our third year of expansion fills me with excitement and a new enthusiastic energy for what's to come," Powell said. "With Albatross, we focus on making fun, eclectic comics that stand out for their individuality and creative quality... It's with this idea of keeping the fun in our Funny Books that we are steering this new ***Goon*** series. I'm returning to the roots of the series with a heavy emphasis on the weird, twisted humor the book has been known for. The world around us is dark enough right now. I want to make readers laugh and forget their troubles for a little bit. It definitely feels like it's time for ***The Goon***.

"Since I am now not just the creator of ***The Goon*** but also the publisher, I need to make sure our readers get their ***Goon*** fix on a regular basis. To that end, we'll be bringing new creators on to the regular series for first time ever," Powell continued. "You'll not only be getting ***Goon*** books written and drawn by me, but some written and drawn by some of the best talent in the industry! We will be making announcements in the

Courtesy of your friendly neighborhood comics outlet!

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months to come, but, boy, I can't wait to show off some of the art we have in the works!"

Look for more information on the creators linked to this series in upcoming issues of *CSN*.

Frazetta Family & Vanguard Benefit from Frank Discussions

Ask comics artists to name their biggest influences, and one of the names that will show up more than any other is *Frank Frazetta*. Since the master artist's death, however, collections of Frazetta's work have been few and far between—but thankfully, that situation is about to change!

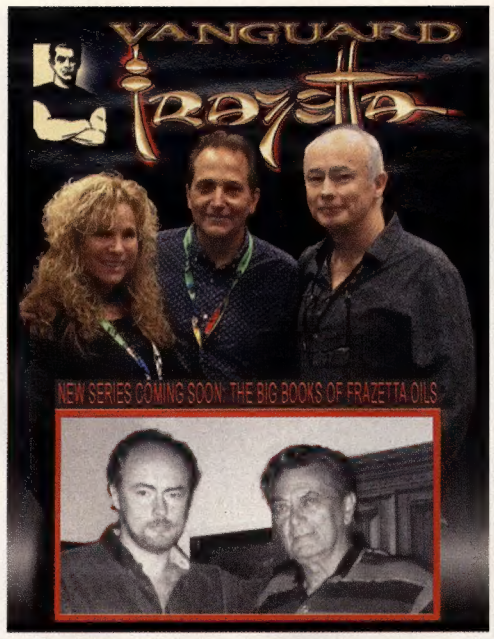
J. David Spurlock of Vanguard Publishing has signed an agreement with the Frazetta Museum that will lead to new collections of Frazetta artwork, beginning with a new ***Big Books of Frazetta Oil Paintings*** series.

Spurlock was a friend of Frazetta's since 1995—a friendship that lasted until the artist's death in 2010. In fact, shortly before Frazetta died, he had signed an agreement to work with Vanguard on future projects. "We've known Vanguard publisher *J. David Spurlock* for many years. Vanguard publishes the very best!" Frazetta said. "I've enjoyed their books on *Hal Foster, Al Williamson, Jeffrey Jones, Neal Adams, Basil Gogos,* and more. David helped on our ***Painting with Fire*** documentary and we helped him on Vanguard's *Roy G. Krenkel, Wally Wood,* and *J. Allen St John* books. It's a natural that we should work together."

Frazetta's passing just two months after making that statement meant that the projects did not come to pass—but now Spurlock has signed a deal with the Frazetta Museum and the Frazetta family members who run it. "Vanguard has worked with the Frazetta family since, to produce books featuring rare and unpublished Frazetta art," Spurlock said. "We've come to know that the largest audience really wants big new books of Frazetta's best-known paintings."

Spurlock's agreement with *Frank Frazetta Jr,* who runs the Frazetta Museum in East Stroudsburg, will lead to a series of books focusing on Frazetta's incredible paintings. "We've actually been photographing work for the new books over the last year," Spurlock said.

"We look forward to the new venture," *Frank Frazetta Jr* said. "My father's work has



Lori and Frank Frazetta Jr of the Frazetta Museum with J. David Spurlock of Vanguard Publishing. Inset, a 1996 photo of Spurlock with master fantasy artist Frank Frazetta Sr.

a unique place in David's heart. Vanguard doesn't just go through the motions as so many publishers do. We are grateful that Vanguard will help promote the Frazetta legacy and keep his name and spirit alive for generations to come."

Look for more news about the first volume in Vanguard's new series of *Frank Frazetta* art books in upcoming issues of ***CSN!***

The Marvel Universe: More Crom-ulent Than Ever!

By Crom, 2019 is destined to be a landmark year for Conan the Cimmerian! In January, Marvel reacquires the Conan license, which means not only a new ***Conan the Barbarian*** series by *Jason Aaron & Mahmud Asrar,* but also a new line of collected editions. And to commemorate Conan's return to Marvel, readers can look forward to two months of Conan variant covers on some of their favorite Marvel titles!

December's covers, which pave the way for the barbarian's return, will feature Conan facing off against some of Marvel's mightiest heroes. The variant lineup will include:

- ***Amazing Spider-Man #11,*** featuring a variant cover by *Giuseppe Camuncoli*
- ***Amazing Spider-Man #12,*** featuring a variant cover by *Mark Bagley*
- ***Avengers #11,*** featuring a variant cover by *Carlos Pacheco*

- ***Black Panther #7,*** featuring a variant cover by *Richard Isanove*
- ***Captain America #6,*** featuring a variant cover by *Butch Guice*
- ***Deadpool #7,*** featuring a variant cover by *Marc Laming*
- ***Fantastic Four #5,*** featuring a variant cover by *Gerald Parel*
- ***Immortal Hulk #10,*** featuring a variant cover by *Inhyuk Lee*
- ***Thor #8,*** featuring a variant cover by *Patch Zircher*
- ***Uncanny X-Men #6,*** featuring a variant cover by *J. Scott Campbell*

January's covers will feature Conan in battle with some of Marvel's mightiest villains. The variant lineup will include:

- ***Amazing Spider-Man #14,*** featuring a variant cover by *Greg Land*
- ***Avengers #13,*** featuring a variant cover by *Mike McKone*

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EDITORS
Cliff Biggers
Ward Batty

Editorial Office
2770 Carillon Crossing
Marietta, GA 30066
cliffbig@comicshopnews.com

Business Office
3717 Evans Dale Dr.
Atlanta, GA 30340
wbatty@csnsider.com

www.csnsider.com
twitter.com/csnsider

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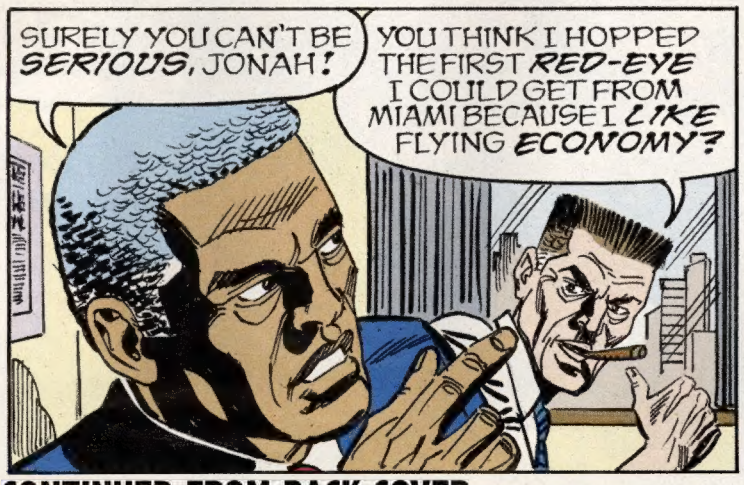

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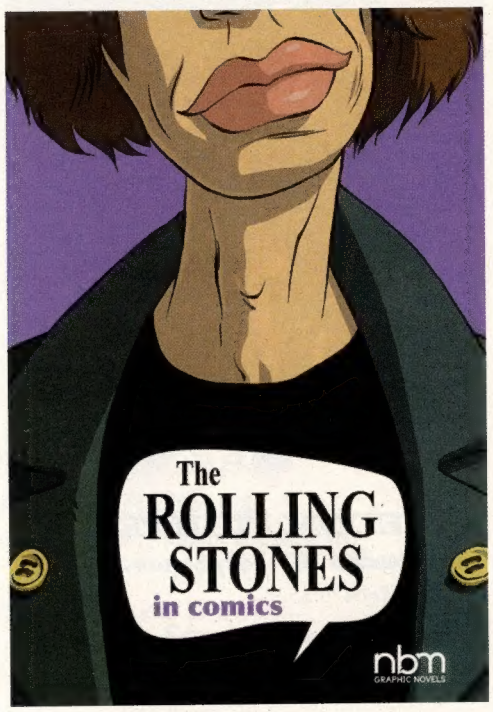
CONTINUED FROM BACK COVER

•***Captain America #7,*** featuring a variant cover by *Dave Johnson*
•***Immortal Hulk #12,*** featuring a variant cover by an artist to be determined
•***Spider-Gwen: Ghost Spider #4,*** featuring a variant cover by *Goran Parlov*
•***Thor #9,*** featuring a variant cover by *Greg Smallwood*
•***Tony Stark: Iron Man #8,*** featuring a variant cover by *Valerio Schiti*
•***Uncanny X-Men #8,*** featuring a variant cover by *Dale Keown*
•***Venom #10,*** featuring a variant cover by *Humberto Ramos*
•***X-Force #2,*** featuring a variant cover by *Jerome Opena*

Best of all, these variant covers will actually feature Conan in action with characters connected with the books in question—So Thor's allies and/or adversaries will appear on the variant covers for ***Thor #s 8 & 9***, and so on! So don't miss out on these: Crom may not care, but you will!

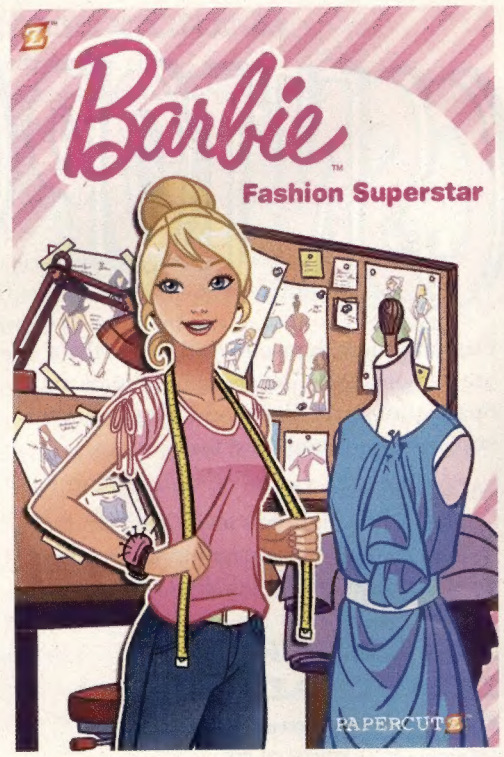
CSNsider

•*Chuck Wendig,* who had been scheduled to write Marvel's upcoming ***Star Wars: Shadow of Vader*** miniseries, has been removed from the book. According to Wendig, he was dropped from that series and another future ***Star Wars*** project due to "the negativity and vulgarity that my tweets bring... If they honestly feel that my presence will damage the book, I don't want that. I want the book to shine, and artists like *Juanan Ramirez* and *Greg Smallwood* to do their amazing thing..." No word yet on who will replace him on the series.



•***The Rolling Stones in Comics HC,*** scheduled for March release from NBM, will feature 21 stories about the acclaimed rock band from a variety of creators. The stories, accompanied by biographical texts, will explore the history of the band and the legends that have built up around them. This is a companion volume to NBM's ***Beatles in Comics,*** a 232-page book slated for release in late November.

•Barbie returns to monthly comics in Papercutz's ***Barbie #1*** (by *Sarah Kuhn & Alitha Martinez).* In this new series, Barbie's a fashion industry newcomer assisting a superstar designer at her big spring fashion show, hoping to use the experience to launch her own fashion career. Look for the first issue in January.



•NBM explores the life of one of science fiction's most fascinating and complex authors in ***Philip K. Dick: A Comics Biography*** (by *Laurnet Queyssi & Mauro Marchesi).* In many ways, Dick's life was just as incredible and surreal as his fiction. While his work (which includes such works as ***The Man in the High Castle*** and ***Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?***) centered on alternate universes and shifting realities in worlds often governed by monopolistic corporations and authoritarian governments, his own life story seems like something from his fiction, increasingly disjointed and driven by fits of paranoia and hallucinations fueled by abuse of drugs meant to stabilize him. This comics biography offers an unvarnished look into Dick's life; look for it in January.

•If you think our world is pretty complicated, you have no idea how much more complicated things *really* are. In ***Stronghold #1,*** the kickoff issue of a new AfterShock series, creators *Phil Hester & Ryan Kelly* reveal that our planet is actually a prison designed to both trap and shelter an amnesiac alien entity of incalculable power. Now known as Michael Grey, this cosmic angel of destruction currently believes himself to be an ordinary Midwestern insurance underwriter, who belongs to a global secret society dedicated to making sure he never discovers the truth about his past. The situation is about to get even worse when Michael Grey discovers love—a love that might lead to the planet's destruction. ***Stronghold #1*** is scheduled for February release.

•***Absolute Daytripper,*** the oversized deluxe slipcased edition of the 10-issue series by *Gabriel Ba & Fabio Moon* that had already been pushed back from early 2019 release to midsummer, has now been taken off DC's schedule. Plans call for the book to be resolicited at a later, yet-to-be-determined date.

•*Gary Whitta & Darick Robertson* present a postapocalyptic superhero take on Charles Dickens' classic ***Oliver Twist*** in ***Oliver #1,*** the debut issue of a new Image series slated for January release. "***Oliver*** has been more than 15 years in the making, so it's a particular thrill to finally see it on its way to a comics store near you, and at a time when it feels more relevant than ever," Whitta said. "I couldn't be more excited to be working with my longtime friend *Darick Robertson,* whose artwork I've admired ever since his groundbreaking work on ***Transmetropolitan.***"

"This project has been a long labor of love for me," Robertson said about the series that reimagines Dickens' orphan as a post-apocalyptic superhero fighting to liberate a war-raved England. "Co-creating ***Oliver*** has been an opportunity to bring my level best work, with support from [Image Publisher] *Eric Stephenson* and Image. It is the essence of what brings me passion for comics and visual storytelling."

•***Alter Ego #157*** focuses on the work of *Joye Murchison,* the assistant to ***Wonder Woman*** creator *Dr William Moulton Marston* who actually went on to write Wonder Woman's adventures from 1945 to 1948. This issue features a fascinating interview with Murchison conducted by *Richard Arndt.* This issue also explores the world of DC's love comics in an interview with writer/editor *Barbara Friedlander.* ***Alter Ego #157*** is scheduled for February release.

•Image Comics has announced plan to offer a free 16-page ***Isola Prologue*** comic with every copy of ***Isola #6;*** the prologue, which originally appeared in the back of ***Motor Crush,*** was not included in the recently released ***Isola Volume 1 TP*** available in comic shops now.

There's No Place Like Comic Shops for the Holidays

For the past several years, comic shops have had a more-or-less normal release schedule for Christmas week. But Christmas 2018 is a bit more problematic, because Christmas falls on a Tuesday (and that's the day that most comic shops get their new releases to process them for Wednesday sales), and that means that no freight carrier or shipper is making deliveries that day. In addition, freight deliveries on Christmas Eve are unpredictable because of the volume of Christmas-related shipping.

In past years, comics publishers have scheduled a skip week for Christmas when the holiday fell on a Tuesday—but this year, Diamond is trying a new approach. Rather than offering no new books for Christmas week, they'll be offering 20 new books—four each from DC, Marvel, and Image, and two each from Boom!, Dark Horse, Dynamite, and IDW. In addition, Diamond will release the January 2019 ***Previews*** catalog on Friday, December 28th.

"A smaller count of titles shipping for the holiday season has happened in the past," Diamond Vice President of Retailer Services *Chris Powell* explained. "With the limited UPS shipping schedule for that week, it was necessary to curtail the amount of product delivered. Retailers will still have a good supply of titles for sale, while also having to spend less resources readying during the holiday week."

To ensure that all stores have these 20 titles on time, Diamond will actually release the books to them a week earlier, on December 19th, with instructions that stores are to hold the books until December 26th. (Don't ask your friendly neighborhood comic shop to let you have those books early, though—doing so could cause them to lose their early release privileges!)

AQUAMAN #43

Kelly Sue DeConnick (W); Robson Rocha & Daniel Henriques (A)

(DC OCT180481 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

In the wake of "Drowned Earth," an amnesiac Arthur washes ashore on a remote island and ends up being cared for by a young woman named Callie, who's just a little *too* curious for comfort. And as a lifetime of horror movies has taught us, there's something strange going on in this island village.

Why Should You Care?

After an auspicious Rebirth start, Aquaman has been drifting directionless recently—but new writer *Kelly Sue DeConnick* is getting the book back on course just in time to hook all the movie fans who want a good Aquaman book to read.

AVENGERS (IDW) #1

Matthew K. Manning (W); Jon Sommariva (A)

(IDW OCT180637 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

A new team of Avengers is formed to battle a mega-sized threat that is weirder and wilder than any the superheroes have met before!

Why Should You Care?

IDW launches is middle-grade-and-up *Avengers* series that aims to recreate the excitement and energy of classic Silver Age Marvel without writing down to the readership. And all we can say is, "It's about time!"

BATMAN #60

Tom King (W); Mikel Janin (A)

(DC OCT180483 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

Batman takes on a new partner, and it's... the Penguin? After rejecting Bane's crime-boss co-op, Cobblepot finds himself in the crosshairs of some very teed-off villains. The feathered felon turns to his old foe to snitch on Bane's scheme, but he has to prove his intentions to avoid a Bat-beatdown.

Why Should You Care?

After the major stumble with the wedding debacle, *Tom King* and DC are striving to get Batman back on track—and a strong Penguin tale is definitely a step in the right direction!

BATMAN AND THE OUTSIDERS #1

Bryan Hill (W); Dexter Soy (A)

(DC OCT180467 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

When the quest for justice drives Batman into some morally ambiguous areas, he calls in the most moral man he knows: Jefferson Pierce, AKA Black Lightning, and his team of operatives known as the Outsiders!

Why Should You Care?

For a while, we referred to the Bat-team in the Rebirth run of ***Detective Comics*** as "Outsiders lite." Now we have a *real* Outsiders team—Black Lightning, Katana, the Signal, and Orphan—to step into the spotlight!

BATMAN ANNUAL #3

Tom Taylor (W); Otto Schmidt (A)

(DC OCT180487 $4.99)

What's the Scoop?

Alfred Pennyworth has been Batman's most trusted ally and confidant since the Dark Knight first hit the streets of Gotham City. Now, witness Batman's battle for justice from Alfred's perspective, and learn how harrowing that journey has been...

Why Should You Care?

With an Alfred TV series in the works, it's about time that Batman's ally and comrade-in-arms gets his very own "defining moments" tale.

BATMAN: DAMNED #2 (OF 3)

Brian Azzarello (W); Lee Bermejo (A)

(DC SEP180424 $6.99)

What's the Scoop?

As Batman's descent into the madness of Gotham City's decadent underbelly continues, he must try to exorcise some of his demons... and who better to help than the Demon Etrigan himself? And where there are demons, there are also a Deadman, a Spectre, an Enchantress, and a host of other supernatural friends and foes...

Why Should You Care?

The Dark Knight has never seemed darker than he does in the pages of this controversial and compelling limited series.

CSN TOP COMICS: D

DEFENDERS: IMMORTAL HULK #1

Al Ewing (W); Simone Di Meo (A)

(Marvel OCT180815 $4.99)

DEFENDERS: NAMOR #1

Chip Zdarsky (W); Carlos Magno (A)

(Marvel OCT180820 $4.99)

DEFENDERS: DOCTOR STRANGE #1

Gerry Duggan (W); Greg Smallwood (A)

(Marvel OCT180825 $4.99)

DEFENDERS: BEST DEFENSE #1

Al Ewing (W); Joe Bennett (A)

(Marvel OCT180835 $4.99)

What's the Scoop?

An apparently dead Doctor Strange... and a green-skinned goliath who wants to know why. A war between the Atlanteans and the surface world, with Namor willing to do whatever it takes to win. A Master of the Mystic Arts trying to use his skills to return to the land of the living. A herald of Galactus searching for the one honest person who can save Earth from destruction. And a series of menaces that threaten the entire solar system unless four very different heroes can come together to stop it...

Why Should You Care?

The Hulk. Doctor Strange. The Sub-Mariner. The Silver Surfer. It's the *real* Defenders, back for a month-long event that we can only hope will lead to a ***Defenders*** return in 2019!

FANTASTIC FOUR #5

Dan Slott (W); Aaron Kuder & others (A)

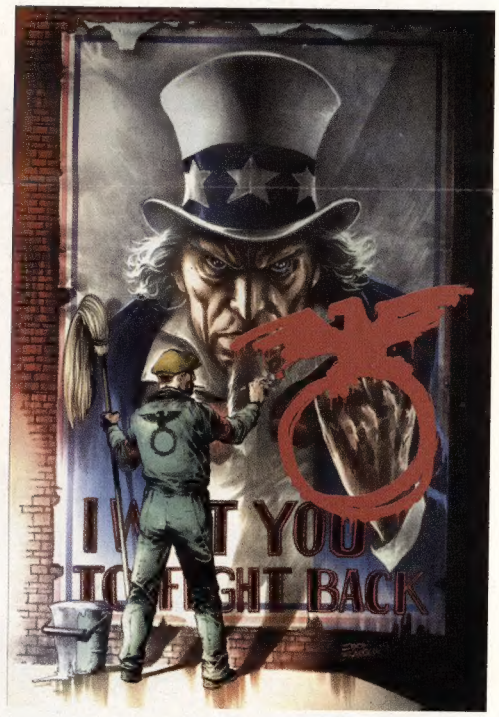
(Marvel OCT180766 $5.99)

What's the Scoop?

It's a wedding issue! A *genuine* wedding issue, not a bait-and-switch or deceptive "I don't"! Here comes the wedding that's been 56 years in the making: Ben and Alicia say "I do!"

Why Should You Care?

Since ***Fantastic Four*** is the comic that gave us the longest, most durable superhero marriage in comics, it's no surprise that they should serve up some more nuptials in this special "rings 'n' Things" issue!



FREEDOM FIGHTERS #1

Robert Venditti (W)' Eddy Barrows (A)

(DC OCT180470 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

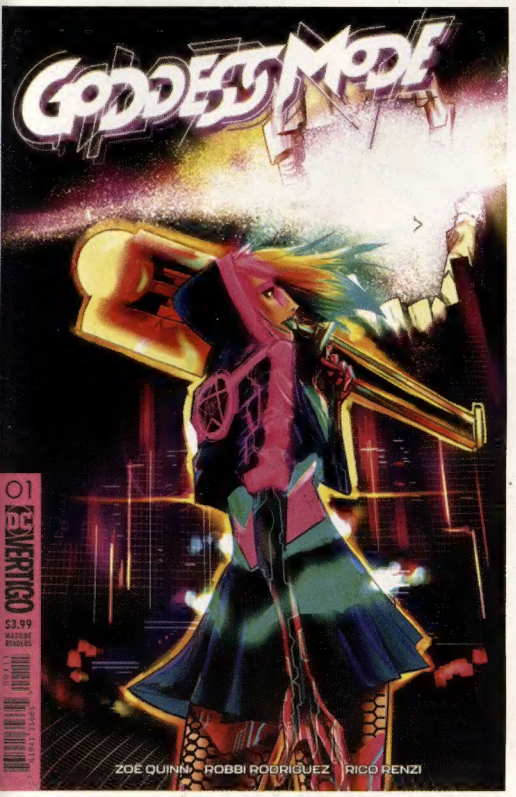
Welcome to Earth X, where the Nazis won World War II! Twenty years after invading and occupying America, Germany wiped out all metahuman resistance, including the original Freedom Fighters. Fast-forward to the present day, and a new team of Freedom Fighters emerges to challenge the Nazi occupation once again. But if they're to have any chance of victory, they're going to need Uncle Sam, who disappeared after his original team was killed...

Why Should You Care?

Freedom Fighters combines DC superheroics with alternate-history twists straight out of ***The Man in the High Castle.*** It may

DECEMBER

not be the Justice Society, but it's a good substitute until the JSA finally returns!



GODDESS MODE #1

Zoe Quinn (W); Robbi Rodriguez (A)

(Vertigo/DC OCT180472 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

In a near future where humanity's needs are provided for by a godlike AI, it's one young woman's horrible job to do tech support on it. But Cassandra Price's life changes forever when she discovers a hidden digital world beneath our own, one where a group of superpowered women are locked in a secret war for the cheat codes to reality.

Why Should You Care?

This complex, provocative series by Hugo Award nominee *Zoe Quinn* is just the sort of thought-provoking science fiction that Vertigo readers have come to expect.

HACK/SLASH VS CHAOS #1

Tim Seeley (W); Rapha Lobosco (A)

(Dynamite OCT181062 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

Cassie Hack, Slasher Hunter Supreme, thought she'd gotten rid of those teenager-perforating undead menaces. But now they're suddenly springing back to life! Cassie and Vlad are going to have to team up with megadeath dispenser Evil Ernie to stop the slaughter, putting them on a path that appears to lead through Chastity, the Chosen, and Purgatori!

Why Should You Care?

Dynamite brings together two of its most popular splatterpunk horror lines—and there's no better choice to chronicle the crossover than *Tim Seeley*, who's done such memorable work with each franchise individually.

HARDCORE #1

Andy Diggle (W); Alessandro Vitti & Adriano Lucas (A)

(Image OCT180031 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

Imagine being able to take over the body of anyone on Earth. Sound crazy? Not for Agent Drake and the Hardcore Program. They can turn any person into a human drone to get to targets that normal soldiers can't. Drake is the best soldier Hardcore has to offer. But when he gets stranded in a body with only 72 hours to discover who's hijacked the Program, he'll have to pull out all the stops against an enemy who could be literally *anyone*.

Why Should You Care?

This Skybound Original series by *Andy Diggle & Alessandro Vitti* is based on a story idea by *Robert Kirkman & Marc Silvestri*—and with creative credentials like that, how can this comic go wrong?

INFINITY WARS INFINITY #1

Gerry Duggan (W); Mark Bagley (A)

(Marvel OCT180876 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

What comes after Infinity? Find out here!

Why Should You Care?

Gerry Duggan & Mark Bagley present a special epilogue to Marvel's cosmic event of 2018.

KLAUS AND THE CRYING SNOWMAN #1

Grant Morrison (W); Dan Mora (A)

(Boom! OCT181241 $7.99)

What's the Scoop?

The best holiday tradition in comics returns in the next chapter of the epic Santa saga by visionary *Grant Morrison* and Eisner Award–nominated artist *Dan Mora!*

Klaus has to help an absentee dad-turned-snowman make amends before he melts away for good. And before he's defeated by a pantheon of Norse Gods and their minions. All in a day's work for Santa Claus.

Why Should You Care?

Grant Morrison & Dan Mora continue their Christmas tradition of gifting readers with the best holiday comic from any publisher! Read one issue, and you'll want to read the ho-ho-whole series!

LAGUARDIA #1

Nnedi Okorafor (W); Tana Ford (A)

(Dark Horse OCT180292 $4.99)

What's the Scoop?

Set in an alternative world where aliens have come to Earth and integrated with society, ***LaGuardia*** revolves around a pregnant Nigerian-American doctor who becomes a part of a growing population of mostly African and shape-shifting alien immigrants, battling against interrogation, discrimination, and travel bans, as they try to make it in a new land.

Why Should You Care?

Hugo, Nebula, and World Fantasy Awards winner *Nnedi Okorafor* presents an intriguing allegorical science fiction tale of isolation, resentment, mistrust, acceptance, and belonging. Don't be surprised if she adds a Harvey and an Eisner to that impressive awards list...

LIVEWIRE #1

Vita Ayala (W); Raul Allen & Patricia Martin (A)

(Valiant OCT181980 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

Accomplice. Mentor. Savior. And now, Enemy of the State. Seeking to protect other vulnerable superpowered psiots like herself, Livewire plunged the United States into a nationwide blackout with her technopathic abilities, causing untold devastation. After choosing the few over the many, she must now outrun the government she served—and those she once called allies.

Why Should You Care?

One of the stars of ***Unity*** and ***Harbinger Wars 2*** graduates to her own solo series for the first time!

MARTIAN MANHUNTER #1 (OF 12)

Steve Orlando (W); Riley Rossmo (A)

(DC OCT180474 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

Back on Mars, J'onn was about as corrupt as a law officer can be, and when a reckoning comes for his entire society, he'll get a second chance he doesn't want or deserve! One shocking murder, and an unexpected fragment of the Mars he lost, will change his life—and the course of the Earth—forever.

Why Should You Care?

One of the first new heroes of the Silver Age is about to be reinvented, courtesy of *Steve Orlando & Riley Rossmo.*

MERRY X-MEN HOLIDAY SPECIAL #1

Various (W/A)

(Marvel OCT180911 $4.99)

What's the Scoop?

Marvel presents 25 holiday tales of merry mutants, one for each day of December 1st through December 25th! What does Magneto do for Hanukkah? What's Rogue and Gambit's first married Christmas like? Is Jubilee truly the master of navigating malls during the holidays? These questions and more are answered in this holiday special!

Why Should You Care?

More than two dozen short holiday tales? Who can resist a feel-good book like that?

ROCKETEER REBORN #1

Elsa Charretier & Pierrick Colinet (W); Javier Pulido (A)

(IDW OCT180677 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

It's been 80 years since Cliff Secord first found an experimental jet pack and soared through the skies as The Rocketeer, becoming a hero along the way. Now, decades later, The Rocketeer is all but forgotten, a legend of a bygone era... until Cliff's jet pack is found. However, that discovery causes conflict for several people, each of whom is drawn to the jet pack—some for good, some for evil!

Why Should You Care?

IDW presents a new generation of Rocketeer-inspired heroes in this clever new look at *Dave Stevens'* beloved classic.

SUPERIOR SPIDER-MAN #1

Christos Gage (W); Mike Hawthorne (A)

(Marvel OCT180840 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

Otto Octavius leaves the moniker of Doctor Octopus behind and once again becomes the Superior Spider-Man! If you think you've already read the most intense and surprisingly heartbreaking Superior Spider-Man story, prepare to be wrong. Otto is going to prove to the world that he's the most effective and (to him at least) the best superhero in the world, no matter who—or how powerful—the adversary.

Why Should You Care?

The hero that no one thought they'd like—but almost everyone did—returns in his very own series. And judging from the job that *Christos Gage & Mike Hawthorne* did on ***Superior Octopus*** last month, this is going to be one heck of a series!

WINTER SOLDIER #1

Kyle Higgins (W); Rod Reis (A)

(Marvel OCT180812 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

Bucky Barnes believes in second chances. Having escaped death, the loss of identity, and a life of murder, the man known as the Winter Soldier has worked hard to atone for his sins. But now he's going to go one step further. What do you do when you've found redemption? You help others do the same.

Why Should You Care?

Kyle Higgins & Rod Reis present a powerful and redemptive new chapter in the life of Bucky Barnes.

X-FORCE #1

Ed Brisson (W); Dylan Burnett (A)

(Marvel OCT180795 $4.99)

What's the Scoop?

Cable is dead... and now, the original X-Force team of Domino, Cannonball, Shatterstar, Boom Boom, and Warpath must hunt down the murderer of their former leader! However, when their target is the time-traveling younger version of their fallen mentor, is there a line they absolutely cannot cross? And what does Deathlok have to do with all of it?

Why Should You Care?

Ed Brisson & Dylan Burnett reassemble a fan-favorite team for an ***Extermination***-spin-off time-spanning adventure that has them hunting down a man who killed himself... sort of.

FYI: Must-Have Additions to Your Reference Library

ALTER EGO #156

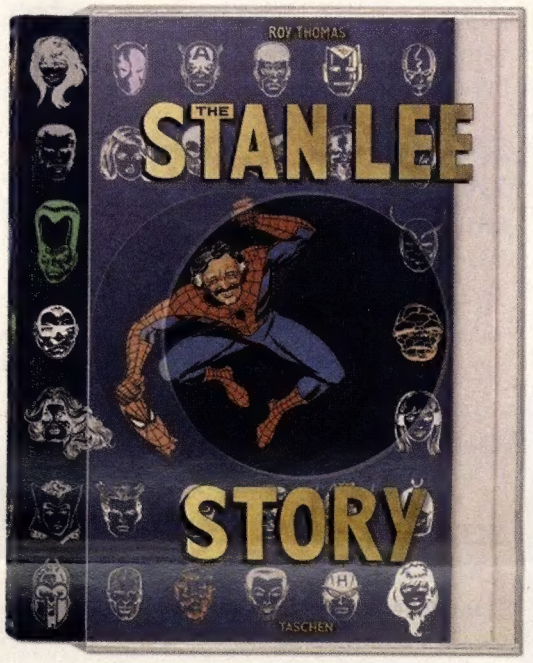
(TwoMorrows SEP182065 $9.95)

Roy Thomas presents another "All-Time Classic Con" extravaganza, featuring panel transcripts spotlighting the Golden Age,the Silver Age, and more. No one does more to preserve key fragments of comic book history more than Roy does in the pages of ***Alter Ego;*** if you have any interest in comics history, this should be on your must-buy list.

RETROFAN MAGAZINE #3

(TwoMorrows SEP182068 $8.95)

RetroFan celebrates the 40th anniversary of ***Superman: The Movie*** with an exclusive interview with Superman director *Richard Donner*! *Martin Pasko's* Pesky Perspective examines Irwin Allen's sci-fi universe! *Andy Mangels* dives into Saturday morning's undersea adventures of Aquaman! *Scott Saavedra* flips through monster fanzines of the Sixties and Seventies! ***The Oddball World of Scott Shaw!*** unravels Marvel's wackiest product ever: *Jim Salicrup & Marie Severin's* Spider-Man and Hulk toilet paper! ***Retro*** Travel to Metropolis, IL, home of the Superman Celebration! If every issue of this magazine doesn't bring back some fond memory, then you're too darn young!



THE STAN LEE STORY: TASCHEN DELUXE EDITION SIGNED HC

(Taschen OCT181915 $1,500.00)

Okay, this may be the priciest book about comics that anyone has ever offered—but look at what you get! The mostly true tale of *Stan Lee* is an unparalleled, giant-sized extravaganza, eight years in the making, about the one and only Godfather of Comics, co-written by Lee and *Roy Thomas,* featuring hundreds of treasures of comic book art, a novel-length essay by Thomas, a foreword written by Lee himself, and intimate photographs sourced straight from his family archives. This Collector's Edition of 1,000 numbered copies is signed by *Stan Lee,* specially bound, and presented in an archival clamshell box.

Collected Cool: December's Best Reprint Editions

AQUAMAN BY GEOFF JOHNS OMNIBUS HC

(DC NOV180531 $75.00)

This Titanic tome collects ***Aquaman #s 0–19, 21–25, 23.1, & 23.2,*** and ***Justice League #s 15–17,*** all written by master storyteller *Geoff Johns.*

BATMAN: THE GOLDEN AGE OMNIBUS HC VOL 6

(DC MAY180571 $125.00)

Enjoy a heaping helping of Bat-tales from ***Detective #s 132–153, Batman #s 46–55,*** and ***World's Finest #s 33–42***—most of which have never been reprinted until now!

BEFORE WATCHMEN OMNIBUS HC

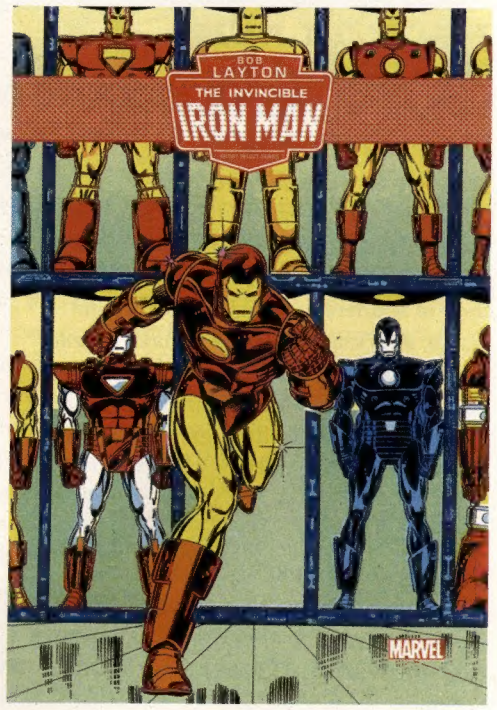
(DC JUN180573 $125.00)

Eight limited series and two specials focusing on the early days of the ***Watchmen*** cast are presented in this hefty volume... and this includes the ***Dr Manhattan*** series that offers intriguing clues about the project that became ***Doomsday Clock!***

BOB LAYTON'S IRON MAN ARTIST'S SELECTION HC

(IDW OCT180735 $150.00)

Bob Layton selects his personal favorites from his two lengthy runs on ***Invincible Iron Man,*** and the result is a compendium featuring 400 pages of Iron Man tales in a signed, numbered, foil-stamped, slipcased hardcover.



CONAN READER TP

(Dark Horse AUG180365 $29.99)

Dark Horse is about to lose the rights to Conan—but before it does, it's assembling some of the finest stories by *Kurt Busiek, P. Craig Russell, Fred Van Lente, Kelley Jones, Ariel Olivetti, Dave Stewart,* and others in an affordable 700-page trade paperback.

FLASH THE SILVER AGE OMNIBUS HC VOL 1

(DC JUL180754 $99.99)

The collection of the first major hero of the Silver Age gets an updated trade dress in this handsome new edition that includes ***Showcase #s 4, 8, 13, & 14; Flash Comics #104*** (the last issue of the Golden Age), and ***The Flash #s 105–132.***

HARLEY LOVES JOKER BY PAUL DINI HC

(DC SEP180576 $24.99)

Harley creator *Paul Dini* returns to his beloved creation in this collection of tales from ***Harley Quinn #s 17–25*** and ***Harley Loves Joker #s 1–2.***

MARVEL UNIVERSE BY FRANK MILLER OMNIBUS HC

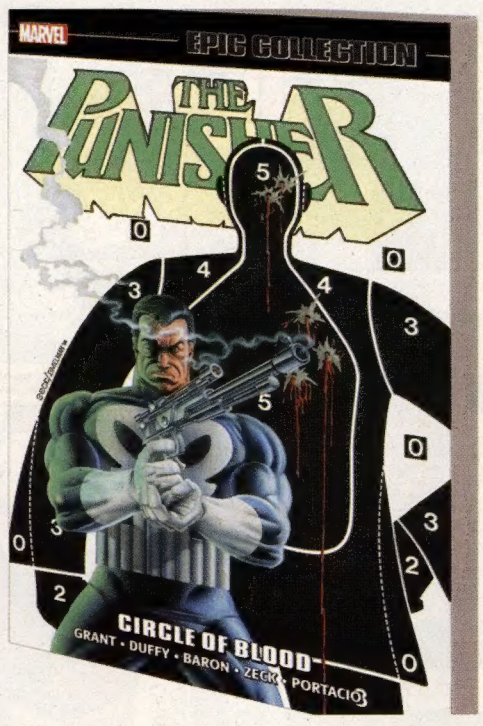
(Marvel JUN180959 $75.00)

Everyone knows Miller for his groundbreaking run on ***Daredevil,*** but he did a lot more than that—and this volume celebrates his work on ***Peter Parker, The Spectacular Spider-Man, Marvel Two-In-One, Marvel Team-Up Annual, Wolverine,*** and much more.

MARVEL UNIVERSE BY JOHN BYRNE OMNIBUS HC VOL 2

(Marvel JUN180960 $125.00)

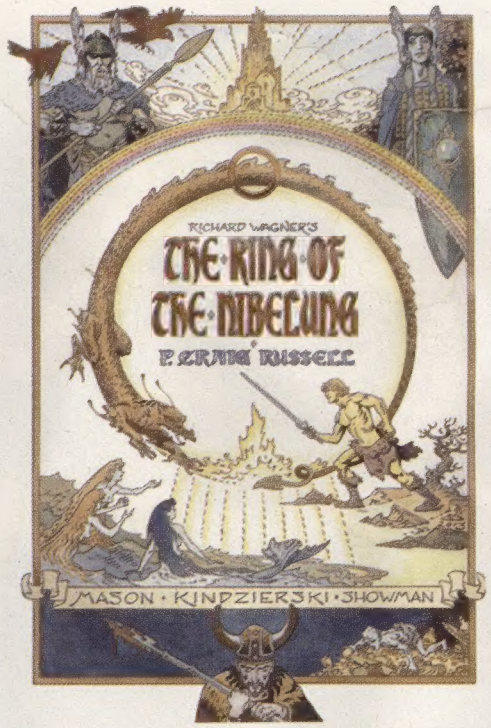
It seems like there was hardly any Marvel character that *John Byrne didn't* work on in the '70s and '80s, as this volume makes delightfully clear! ***Iron Fist, Ghost Rider, Incredible Hulk Annual, Iron Man, Marvel Two-In-One, Marvel Team-Up, Avengers Annual, New Mutants, Star Brand, She-Hulk***—they're all here, and much, much more!



PUNISHER EPIC COLLECTION TP: CIRCLE OF BLOOD

(Marvel SEP181025 $39.99)

The Punisher tales that made Frank Castle a star are collected in this trade paperback that includes the ***Punisher*** limited series by *Steven Grant, Mike Zeck, & John Beatty;* ***Punisher*** (ongoing) ***#s 1-10,*** *Daredevil #257,* and *Marvel Graphic Novel: Punisher—Assassin's Guild.*



RING OF NIBELUNG TP

(Dark Horse AUG180338 $24.99)

You may not be an opera fan, but everyone is an opera comics fan when the comics are done by *P. Craig Russell,* telling the entire heroic fantasy tale of Wagner's epic opera.

SUPER SONS OMNIBUS HC

(DC JUL180781 $75.00)

The entire Rebirth run of ***Super Sons***—including specials, holiday tales, and more—is collected in one volume. Warning: Reading this book will make you demand that DC get the band back together for new ***Super Sons*** adventures!

MARVEL GALLERY BLACK PANTHER MOVIE SHURI PVC FIGURE

(Diamond Select JUL182503 $45.00)

In this 9" tall PVC diorama based on the character's movie likeness, Shuri takes aim with her twin Vibranium gauntlets, firing blasts of sonic energy.

Hot Commodities:

December's Best Merchandising & Collectibles

BATMAN 1966 BRUCE WAYNE BUST

(Diamond Select JUL182492 $59.99)

Jean St Jean handles the sculpting honor for this meticulously designed resin bust that captures the likeness of *Adam West* as Batman's civilian alter ego... and appropriately enough, it's limited to 1966 copies in recognition of the year that ***Batman*** made its ABC-TV debut.

MARVEL MILESTONES BLACK PANTHER MOVIE STATUE

(Diamond Select JUL182504 $250.00)

This approximately 14" resin statue, limited to only 1,000 units, depicts the Black Panther himself crouching atop a massive panther statue in his native land. It includes a numbered certificate of authenticity in a full-color, hand-numbered box.

SPIDER-MAN

BY STAN LEE & ALEX SAVIUK

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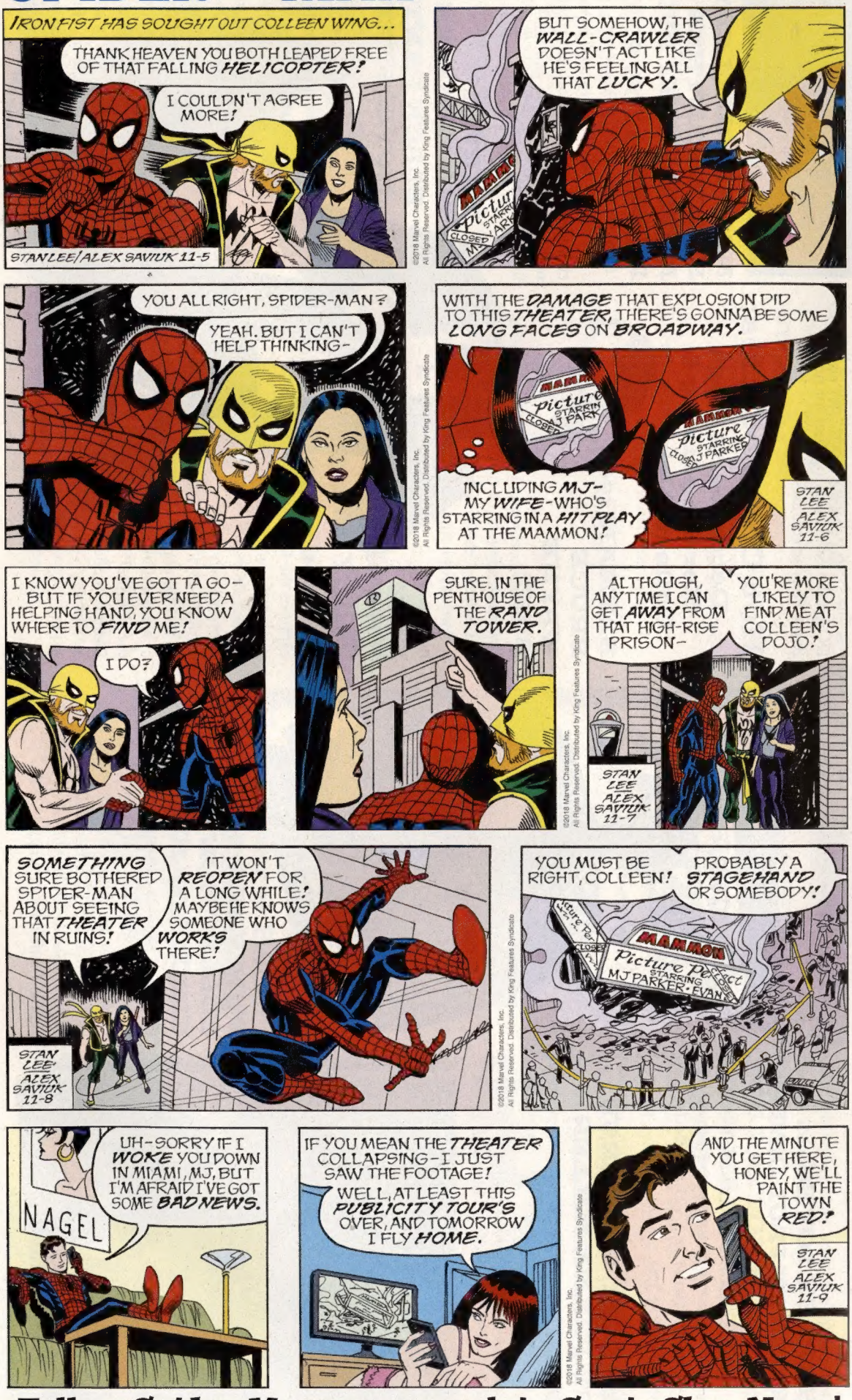
IRON FIST HAS SOUGHT OUT COLLEEN WING...
THANK HEAVEN YOU BOTH LEAPED FREE OF THAT FALLING HELICOPTER!
I COULDN'T AGREE MORE!
STAN LEE/ALEX SAVIUK 11-5
BUT SOMEHOW, THE WALL-CRAWLER DOESN'T ACT LIKE HE'S FEELING ALL THAT LUCKY.
YOU ALL RIGHT, SPIDER-MAN?
YEAH. BUT I CAN'T HELP THINKING-
WITH THE DAMAGE THAT EXPLOSION DID TO THIS THEATER, THERE'S GONNA BE SOME LONG FACES ON BROADWAY.
INCLUDING MJ- MY WIFE- WHO'S STARRING IN A HIT PLAY AT THE MAMMON!
STAN LEE ALEX SAVIUK 11-6
I KNOW YOU'VE GOTTA GO- BUT IF YOU EVER NEED A HELPING HAND, YOU KNOW WHERE TO FIND ME!
I DO?
SURE. IN THE PENTHOUSE OF THE RAND TOWER.
ALTHOUGH, ANYTIME I CAN GET AWAY FROM THAT HIGH-RISE PRISON-
YOU'RE MORE LIKELY TO FIND ME AT COLLEEN'S DOJO!
STAN LEE ALEX SAVIUK 11-7
SOMETHING SURE BOTHERED SPIDER-MAN ABOUT SEEING THAT THEATER IN RUINS!
IT WON'T REOPEN FOR A LONG WHILE! MAYBE HE KNOWS SOMEONE WHO WORKS THERE!
STAN LEE ALEX SAVIUK 11-8
YOU MUST BE RIGHT, COLLEEN!
PROBABLY A STAGEHAND OR SOMEBODY!
MAMMON
Picture Perfect
STARRING MJ PARKER-EVANS
CLOSED
NAGEL
UH-SORRY IF I WOKE YOU DOWN IN MIAMI, MJ, BUT I'M AFRAID I'VE GOT SOME BAD NEWS.
IF YOU MEAN THE THEATER COLLAPSING-I JUST SAW THE FOOTAGE!
WELL, AT LEAST THIS PUBLICITY TOUR'S OVER, AND TOMORROW I FLY HOME.
AND THE MINUTE YOU GET HERE, HONEY, WE'LL PAINT THE TOWN RED!
STAN LEE ALEX SAVIUK 11-9
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